

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

O I P E 14P13
JAN 30 2006
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
In re Patent Application of) Mail Stop AF
Xing Man Tsui et al.) Group Art Unit: 2829
Application No.: 10/829,431) Examiner: Russell Marc Kober
Filed: April 22, 2004) Confirmation No.: 8776
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR)
TESTING SEMICONDUCTOR)
DEVICES)
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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 28, 2005, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims.

The rejection of claims 1-5 and 8-13 under 35 U.S.C. §102, on the grounds that they were considered to be anticipated by the Tsurushima et al. patent, was maintained. Claims 6 and 7 were identified as containing allowable subject matter, which is noted with appreciation.

In reply to Applicants' previous response traversing this ground of rejection, the most recent Office Action takes the position that, since Applicants confirmed that the claims are not directed to the combination of a support apparatus and a leadframe with semiconductor devices, but rather to the support apparatus, *per se*, all references to the leadframe and/or semiconductor devices were not being given any weight in determining patentability. It is respectfully submitted that this is not the proper standard to be applied. As stated in the case of *In re Wilson*, 424 F.2d 1382, 165 USPQ 494 (CCPA 1970), "All words in a claim must be considered in judging